Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1-6. (Cancelled)

. . . .

- 7. (Currently amended) A polarizer which comprises a polarizing element and a protective film bonded to the polarizing element with an adhesive, wherein the adhesive is the <u>a</u> water-based adhesive for polarizing elements comprising a polyvinyl alcohol resin, a resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and a crosslinking agent according to any one of claims 1-6.
- 8. (Currently amended) A polarizer according to claim 6 7, wherein the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure is a copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene protective film is a cellulose acctate film.
- 9. (Currently amended) A polarizer according to claim 6-or 7 8, wherein the copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene has a weight average molecular weight of 55,000-350,000 polarizing element is a polyvinyl alcohol resin film, and the content of boron in the polarizing element is 10-40% by weight in terms of boric acid.
- 10. (New) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the crosslinking agent is a compound having an epoxy group.
- 11. (New) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the

polyvinyl alcohol resin is a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin or a mixture of a polyvinyl alcohol resin and a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin.

. . .

- 12. (New) A polarizer according to claim 7, which comprises the polyvinyl alcohol resin, the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and the crosslinking agent in a weight proportion of 100/(1-1000)/(0.5-5000).
- 13. (New) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the protective film is a cellulose acetate film.
- 14. (New) A polarizer according to claim 7, wherein the polarizing element is a polyvinyl alcohol resin film, and the content of boron in the polarizing element is 10-40% by weight in terms of boric acid.
- 15. (New) A method for bonding a protective film to a polarizing element which comprises bonding the protective film to the polarizing element by use of a water-based adhesive comprising a polyvinyl alcohol resin, a resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and a crosslinking agent.
- 16. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure is a copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene.
- 17. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein the copolymer of maleic anhydride and isobutylene has a weight average molecular weight of 55,000-350,000.
- 18. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the crosslinking agent is a compound having an epoxy group.

- 19. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol resin is a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin or a mixture of a polyvinyl alcohol resin and a modified polyvinyl alcohol resin.
- 20. (New) A method according to claim 15, which comprises the polyvinyl alcohol resin, the resin having a maleic anhydride skeleton in the structure, and the crosslinking agent in a weight proportion of 100/(1-1000)/(0.5-5000).